

Halloween Special

ST. JOHN'S

Spooky October News!



SPOOKTACULAR

This year's Spooktacular Day will take place on Thursday 24th October. We would appreciate it if your child/children could come to school dressed up for a day of fun activities. There will be spot prizes for the best dressed but please don't feel obliged to buy a costume- we've found that sometimes the best costumes are "the home made" ones!

This year we are also running a 'Pumpkin Competition'. Children and their families can design and carve out pumpkins.

Entries can be brought into school the week starting 21st October and the winners will be announced on our Spooktacular Day. Please note all Pumpkins must be brought home by Friday 25th October.

ST. JOHN'S
PUMPKIN COMPETITION
ALL FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO
ENTER THEIR PUMPKIN

ENTRIES ACCEPTED
FROM
MONDAY 21ST
OCTOBER



Halloween Holidays

Halloween Holidays will run from Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November, with children and staff returning to school on Monday 4th November. Enjoy the break and remember to be careful near bonfires and fireworks.

October 2019						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2	3

Parent Teacher Meetings

These will be held in school on Friday 25th October 2019. A timetable will follow shortly with times for meeting your child's class teacher. **The 25th is a half day for children so please arrange collection for 11:00am.**

Dates for your Diary

12th December 2019 — School Trip to Beauty and the Beast Panto in the Grand Opera House Belfast. More details to follow.

3rd April 2020 — Confirmation in Our Lady Queen of Peace, Maghera.

30th May 2020 — First Holy Communion

Money

We strive to collect all money on a Monday. This job is made much easier if the correct change is given in an envelope marked with the pupil's names and what the money is for. Please note that



dinner is **£2.60 per day** and envelopes can be purchased from the school office.

Primary One Assembly

Well done to our Primary One children who held a special assembly on Friday 27th September to celebrate their first month in St. John's. Thank you to all the parents who were able to join us.

Check out their video on our school website
www.stjohnspseglish.com

Attendance

The School's Attendance for September was 97%. Remember that if your child is unable to attend school, you are to make contact with the school in the morning and send a note in with the child when they return.

Uniforms

A huge thank you to all families on your continued efforts to maintain children's presentation. The standard of uniform has been exemplary to date. Please ensure that all items of clothing (uniform, PE, coats etc) are correctly labelled to ensure no items get lost.

School Mass

Well done to the children for their participation in our school mass on 25th September. It was great to see so many members of our school community in attendance. Thank you to Miss McGeown and Miss Rafferty for overseeing the choir.

Football tournament

Well done to the children who represented our school at two football blitzes during September. Thank you to St Peter's Collegeland and St. John the Baptist's College for inviting us.



We have another blitz on Friday 11th October in Pearse Og Park. All P5, P6 and P7 children will be going to this blitz.

PE Days

Monday	P4/P5/P6	Football with Aaron Findon
Wednesday	P5/P6/P7	Swimming
Thursday (During School)	P1-P7	Healthy Kidz with Niall Gavin
Thursday (After School)	P5/P6/P7	Healthy Kidz with John

How to contact a Teacher

The partnership between parents, and teachers is vital for your child's education. Please take any opportunity available to speak to the teacher about your child's progress. The best time to reach teachers and the principal is before 9.15am and after 3.15pm and we will try our utmost to accommodate your needs.

Library Visit

The Library van will be in school on Wednesday 2nd and Wednesday 16th. This is an excellent service and gives children the opportunity to read a wide range of books.



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After School Club

Our After School Club between 2:15pm and 3:15pm continues to grow and grow. Thank you to Mrs Mulholland and Mrs O'Neill who co-ordinate this club.

Reward System

This year, the children and staff of the school will be divided into five teams. Throughout the year they will work together to gain points for their team.

Each month points will be awarded according to a specific theme.

October's theme is: **'Manners'**.

The staff will be on the look out for children who display good manners in school.

Remember points make prizes!



Parking Safety



In the morning, the road can get very congested with cars. To help reduce this and help prevent an accident occurring, we would appreciate if all cars, both in the morning and evening, would:

- Turn down at the football club entrance gates
- Park on the Primary 1/2 side of the school
- Do not park beyond Miss McGeown's top porch

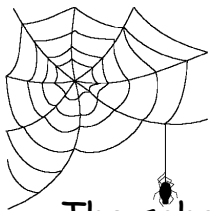
Please do not park at the chapel or school entrance as this blocks the flow of traffic

Children must use the footpath to walk up towards the designated crossing area and our Mrs O'Neill, our Lollipop Lady, will be there to cross the children safely.

Accelerated Reader



Once again the children in Primary 4 to Primary 7 will be taking part in the Accelerated Reader programme. Accelerated Reader is a powerful tool designed to meet the individual reading needs of every pupil. At the beginning of the programme, children completed a 'Star Reading' test. This test gave each child an individual score. This is a decimal based score covering a specific range (e.g. 1.5-2.5). This is very helpful as it helps students select books that are difficult enough to keep them challenged, but not too difficult to cause frustration. Each child will also be given an personalised reading target which is generated by the computer based on the child's 'Star Test' result and the time period over which the scheme will run e.g. 8 weeks. Between now and Christmas the children will be reading books from within their range and completing Accelerated Reading tests in an attempt to meet their target. Please talk to your child about their target and their progress throughout the term.



School Nurse



The school nurse is due on 14th November to administer the flu vaccine. More details to follow.

Coats

Please remember to bring your coats from now on as the colder weather creeps in.



This year we will be taking part in a 'shoebox appeal'. These shoeboxes contain essentials for children who are not as fortunate as us. More details will follow.

Parent Support Group

Our Parent Support Group, who were formed last year, continue to work hard behind the scenes raising much needed funds. Keep an eye on their Facebook Page; 'St. John's Eglis P.S Parent Support Group', to keep up to date. If you are wanting to get involved please contact the school. New members are always welcome.

Do this in Memory Mass

Our Primary Fours being their 'Do This in Memory Programme' on Sunday 13th October. This programme helps prepare the children for the important year ahead.

Coffee Morning



Thank You!!!

Thank you to ReCon Waste Management who recently organised a coffee morning in memory of Maurice Forbes, one of their employees. All proceeds were divided between us and Birches Primary School. The event was very well supported and the school received £670.

Marian Month

October is one of the months dedicated to honouring Mary. Please use this special time to talk to your child about Mary and the important role she continues to play in our lives.



Quote for the month:

"Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference".

Riddle for the month:

I'm tall when I'm young, and I'm short when I'm old, what am I?

Joke for the month:

What is a witch's favourite subject in school?

Spelling!

